

THE ROLE OF STUDENT VOICES IN SHAPING STUDENT SUCCESS AT CUT

A perspective from a Student Leader

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INTRODUCTION

In today's higher education landscape, the inclusion of student voices in shaping academic and social environments is increasingly recognized as a pivotal factor in fostering student success. Despite this recognition, many institutions continue to prioritize top-down approaches, overlooking the invaluable insights and feedback that students can offer.

BACKGROUND

CUT 2024 Readiness Survey

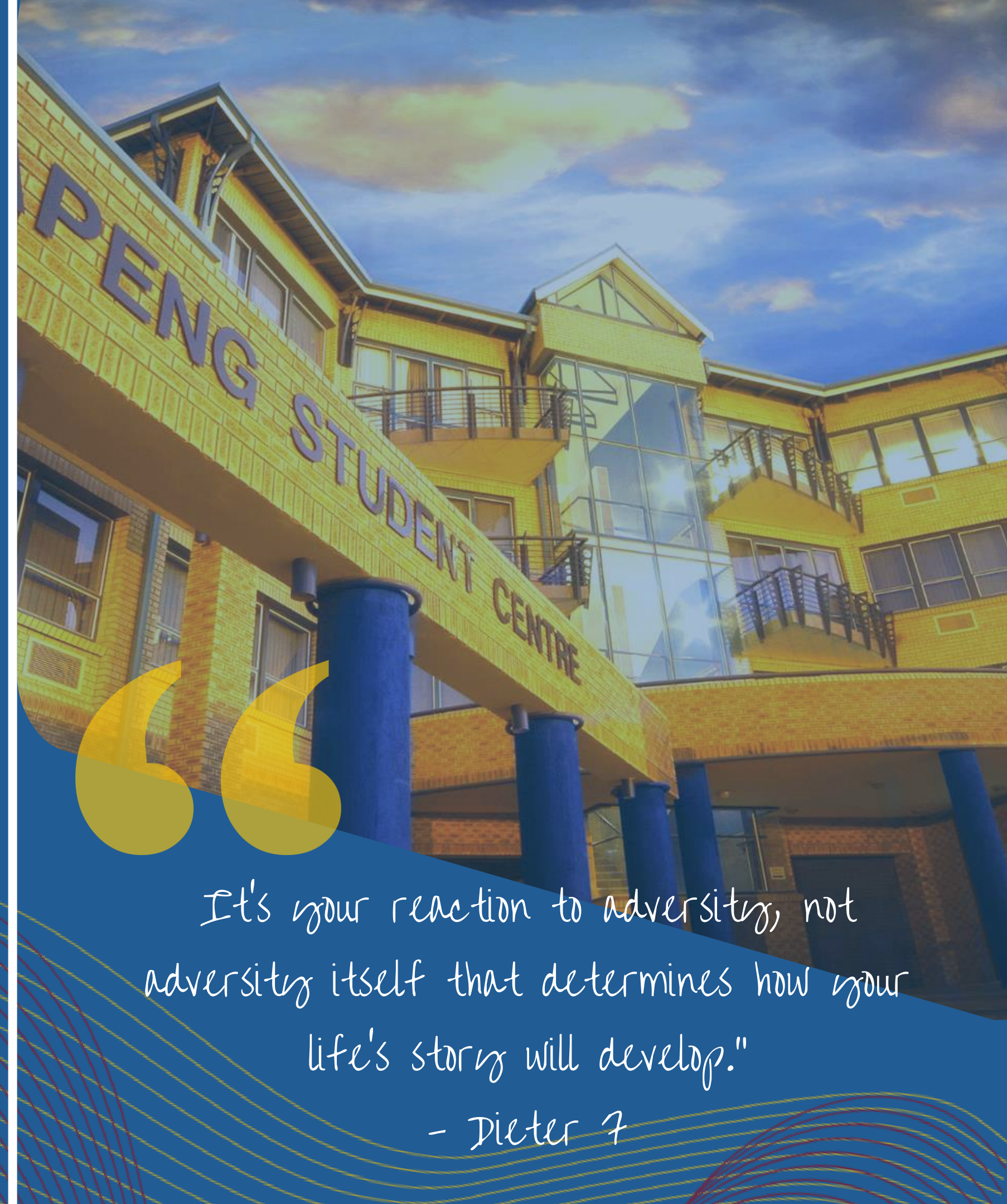
90% of CUT's 1st year learners are NSFAS recipients

63.12% are no fee paying students

43.22% live in townships

23.7% live in rural areas

43% are 1st generation students



It's your reaction to adversity, not adversity itself that determines how your life's story will develop."

- Dieter F

OVERVIEW

*Importance of student voices
in university settings*

- Enhancing Student Engagement
- Improving Student Success
- Inclusivity and Diversity
- Building a Supportive Community
- Empowerment and Ownership



*Whether you think you can, or you think
you can't, you're right.*

- Henry Ford

INFORMAL FEEDBACK MECHANISMS

Real-time feedback

- Continuous Improvements
- Inclusive participation



*"Criticism, like rain, should be gentle
enough to nourish a man's growth without
destroying his roots."*

- Frank A. Clark

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The institution has a top-down approach and students' voices are often not considered in teaching and learning decision making.

Adjustment to the tertiary environment

Inclusivity

Socio-economic inequalities

Inequality

Human rights and social justice

0

10

20

30

40

Importance of student voices in university settings enhances student engagement, improves student success, inclusivity and diversity, building a supportive community that is empowered and takes ownership.



Central University of
Technology, Free State

HIGHLIGHT



SUCCESS STORY: DR. KHETSHA

**Senior Lecturer: Agriculture at Central University of Technology,
Free State | TAU Fellow**



- Introduction to Dr. Khetsha, Senior Lecturer from the Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences.
- Application of learner feedback to amend teaching style.
- Positive outcomes and improvements in student engagement and success.



RECOMMENDATIONS



STUDENTS AS PARTICIPANTS, EVALUATORS AND PARTNERS

Active Engagement

Inclusion in Feedback Processes: Regular surveys and feedback sessions to gather student input on courses, services, and campus life. Open forums and meetings where students can voice concerns and suggestions.



Benefits

Empowerment: Students feel valued and heard, enhancing their engagement and satisfaction. Improved Services: Direct feedback leads to targeted improvements in academic and support services.



Implementation

Feedback Mechanisms: Anonymous feedback channels to ensure honest and candid responses. Structured feedback sessions integrated into the academic calendar.
Outcomes: Enhanced Learning Environment: Continuous improvements based on student input, leading to a better educational experience.
Responsive Institution: The university must adapt quickly to student needs and concerns.





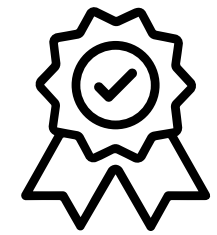
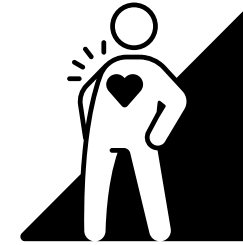
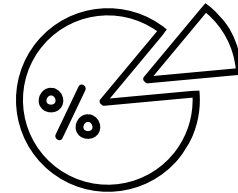
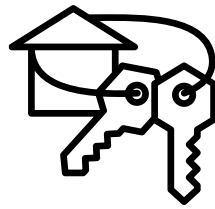
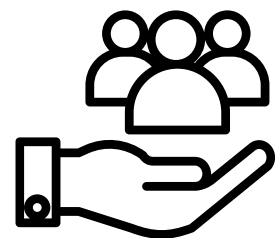
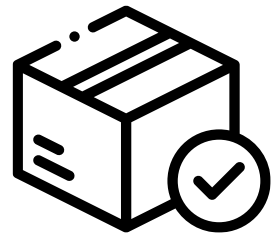
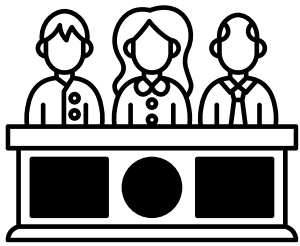
ADDITIONALS



University
Readiness
and
Preparedness

Degrees
of
Exception

Representation



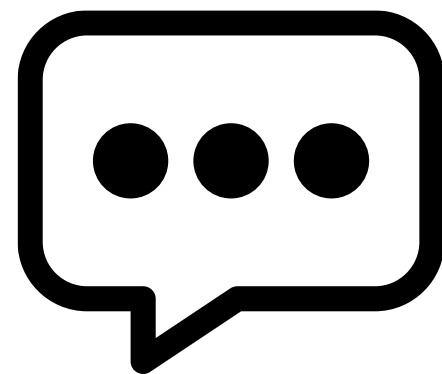
Sitting and
Reporting
Committee

Support
Programmes

Celebrate
/
Tracker

Reward
Excellence

Value each
Learner
Equally

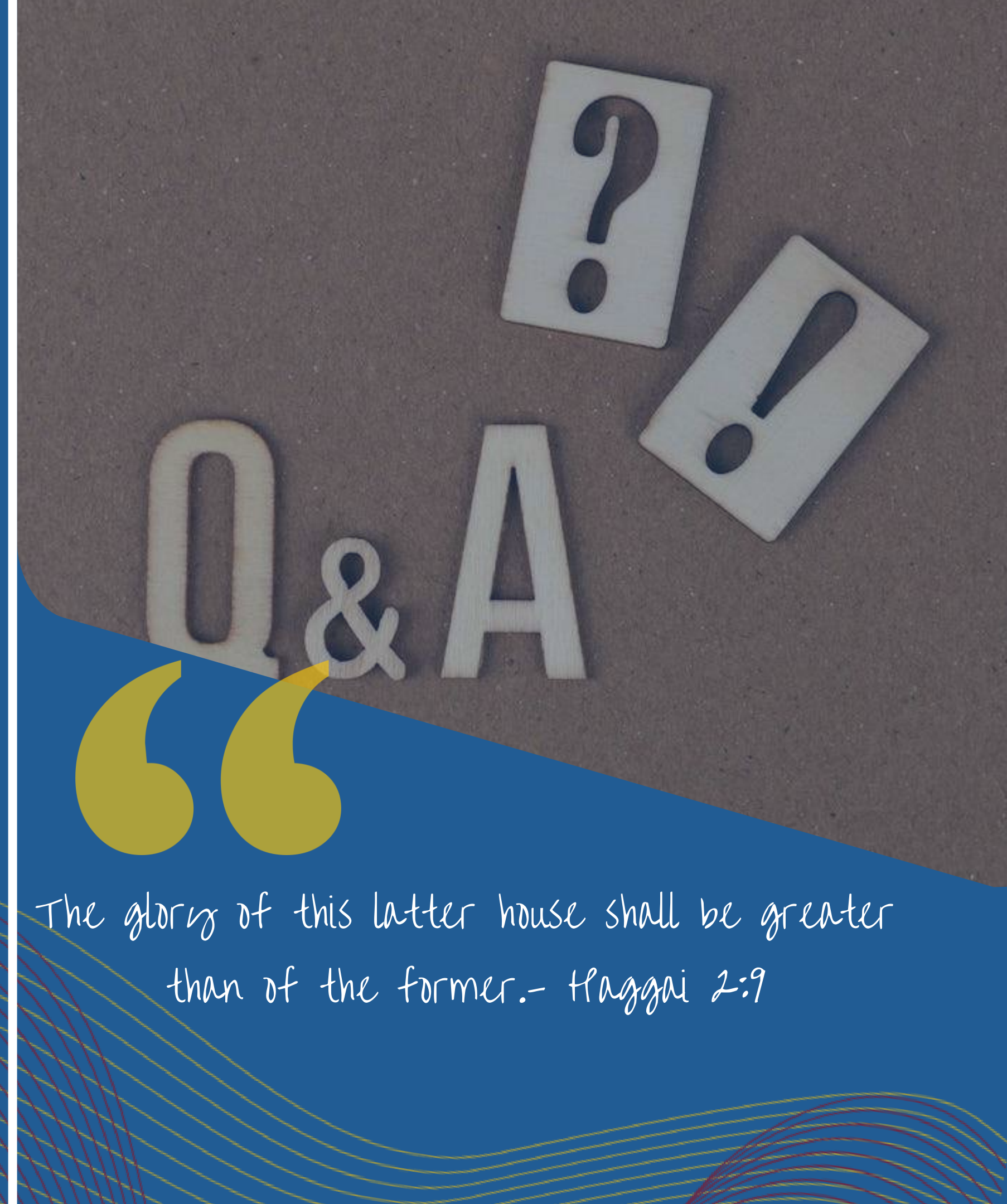


Utilize
Influence
Strategically



Overcommunicate

THANK YOU!



“

The glory of this latter house shall be greater
than of the former.- Haggai 2:9